



# The Grand Project Format

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## Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide information to newcomers who wish to understand the grand project format. This will also give members of the Petri Dish Network or members of the public a checklist that they can reference to see if their ideas meet the criteria for grand projects as well as the procedure for creating new grand projects in the Petri Dish Network.

## Definition of Grand Projects

Grand projects are a concept presented in this paper that can be defined by the following basic characteristics:

- Long-term
  - Minimum of 6 months duration
- Large in scope
  - Is more than what one person could reasonably complete in 6 months
- Interdisciplinary
  - Requires knowledge of many fields to complete
- Interorganizational
  - Involves members of different Petri Dish network groups
- May or may not be for monetary purposes
  - This may be for research, invention, community outcome, or commercialization

## Needed Components for Success

- A Director
  - A single person to be accountable for the direction, timelines, and expectations of the grand project group
  - The director is also responsible for delegating tasks and seeking additional funding where needed
- A project development framework
  - A project development framework can be anything that helps organize time, goals, and deadlines
    - This can take the form of excel, Jira or equivalents, calendar schedule, etc.
- A core group of people to work on the project
  - Every grand project needs a minimum set of people with the required skillset to maintain the project
    - A core group is defined as at least 2 people who can work on the project during times of low community involvement
- Regularly scheduled meeting times
  - At the minimum, a monthly main meeting is enough
  - Our recommendation for best results is weekly meetings
  - Our recommendation is also to have the meetings posted publicly on meetup so that new people from the community can join in at any time
- Materials to onboard new people who are interested in joining the working group
  - This can be a folder of introductory documents, videos, or wikis to bring new people up to speed as to what they are working on

## How to Start a Grand Project

1. Determine if your project idea meets the definition of a grand project
2. Determine if you can meet all the components for success above
3. IF both questions above are “yes” then fill out the form below
4. Send the form to [media@dmvpetridish.com](mailto:media@dmvpetridish.com)
5. You will have a town hall style event where you present your grand project and recruit additional people beside your core to help your project
6. Begin regular meetings after your town hall

# Grand Project Proposal Form

**Project Name**

**Director**

**Project Description**

**Project Duration**

**Project Development Framework**

**Core Members**

**Anticipated Meeting Times**

**Day:**

**Time:**

**Frequency**

- Weekly**
- Bi-weekly**
- Monthly**

**Aspirations**

- Research**
- Invention**
- Community Outcome**
- Commercialization**